

## *Professional Standards*

The Professional Standards Division uses its expertise to support Department-wide initiatives or mandates, and is responsible for preparing written policies and procedures (known departmentally as General Orders), some of which are required as a result of court decisions. Professional Standards also is responsible for the Department's mandated performance-based budget, strategic plan, and annual reports, for coordinating the work involved in maintaining law enforcement certification standards, for supporting grant applications and reports, and for general planning and research, including statistical analyses of crashes required by the federal government. This division also oversees the Driver Improvement program, reported separately in this annual report under the section for Motorist Services.

## *Research, Planning, and Development (RPD)*

The Research, Planning, and Development Section serves every facet in the Department of Safety. Analytical studies, report preparations and presentations, and policy and procedure development are only a few of the tasks performed by this section. This section manages Grant procurement and administration of funding as well. This unit supports grant applications by continually monitoring and reporting activities during grant periods. In FY 2004-2005 alone, the RPD Section was responsible for managing numerous federal grants allocating approximately \$20 million to the Department of Safety. Grants managed by RPD have been used for special enforcement efforts, overtime pay, new traffic safety vests, flashlight wands, in-car cameras, mobile data terminals, and other essential enforcement equipment. Legislative Analysis is routinely performed to determine the effectiveness and feasibility of various laws and initiatives proposed by the State Legislature, as well as their potential impact on departmental operations. RPD prepares and designs the "blue prints" or framework for new programs that are mandated by legislation. The section serves as a repository and contact for both public and private entities. Duties performed range from assisting high school students with term papers to providing specialized reports to the federal government. In addition, this section is responsible for general planning and research, including the development and analysis of statistical reports and activity summaries regarding all operational aspects of the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

The RPD Section also assists with the development and design of public safety announcements, brochures, posters, forms, press releases and informational documents. In addition, the unit tracks various trends in fatality data including alcohol-indicated fatal crashes, fatal crashes involving teens, safety belt use in fatal crashes, contributing geographic factors, and other statistical indicators. RPD also prepares responses to correspondence received from the Commissioner's office, the Colonel, various surveys, as well as e-mails from other state, local, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and the general public.

During FY 2004-2005, the RPD Section developed and implemented departmental policy and procedures regarding the administration of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) program. In addition, RPD serves as the Southeast's central data collection agency for all holiday enforcement periods in compliance with reporting procedures for national enforcement programs. In the past year, RPD has continued to develop policies and enforcement procedures and guidelines for numerous nation-wide special enforcement efforts.

The table below is a brief summary of RPD activities over the past few years involving grant procurement and implementation, bill analysis, as well as development of and revisions to General Orders.

<b>Research, Planning, and Development Activity</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>FY 2002-2003</b>	<b>FY 2003-2004</b>	<b>FY 2004-2005</b>
# of Grants Managed	19	12	31
# of Bill Analyses Conducted	75	51	54
# of General Orders Implemented	13	14	9